

Youth Resource Connections

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The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO), Office of Youth Services (OYS), brings you **Youth Resource Connections**. On a bi-weekly basis, Youth Resource Connections provides important announcements and information for state and local workforce investment boards, youth councils, youth service providers, Youth Opportunity Grant sites, partners, and coaches, and others interested in youth development. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you would like to contribute information, post an inquiry, or suggest topics to cover, please contact DeEtta Roberson-Carter (Droberson-Carter@doleta.gov; 202- 693-3610) or Susan Rosenblum (srosenblum@doleta.gov; 202-693-3597) at the Office of Youth Opportunities.

Listserv Expands to Cover Workforce Investment Act (WIA) News. The Office of Youth Opportunities has decided to expand the bi-weekly Technical Assistance Updates to cover news and events of interest to the state and local workforce development system as well as Youth Opportunity Grantees (YOG) and partners. Starting with the November 30 issue, the new bi-weekly update will be called **Youth Resource Connections**. We have added a new section, **WIA Youth Updates**, for announcements that are specifically related to state and local implementation of WIA-funded youth programs.

These bi-weekly updates will be automatically forwarded to local workforce areas, youth councils, Youth Opportunity Grants, and other youth development practitioners throughout the nation. If you wish to stop receiving these updates, follow these easy steps to remove your name from the listserv: 1) Log on to http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/; 2) Click "Subscribe to OYS Updates"; 3) Enter your name and e-mail address in the fields provided; 4) Click "Unsubscribe". If wish to add someone to the listserv follow the steps outlined above, but click "Subscribe"

WIA Youth Updates

Senate and FY 2002 Appropriations. The Senate passed their version of an FY 2002 appropriation for the Department. A summary of the bill will be shared with the Executive Staff. Contact: Jack Rapport (202-693-2742; jrapport@doleta.gov).

TEIN Approval. Assistant Secretary Emily Stover DeRocco approved TEIN 4-01: Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Readiness Workgroup Activities,

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Technical Assistance Update for November 30, 2001

http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/bookshelf2.asp. The purpose of this TEIN is to transmit information about the activities of the WIA Readiness Workgroups to the workforce investment system. Contact Haskel Lowery for information regarding the work of the Youth Services workgroup (202-693-3608; hlowery@doleta.gov). Inquiries may also be directed to your ETA Regional Office.

TEGL Approval. Assistant Secretary Emily Stover DeRocco approved TEGl 6-01: Changes to the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Advisory System http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/pdf/tegl6-01.pdf. The purpose of this TEGl is to announce the changes to the advisory system (formerly called the directives system), used by ETA to communicate guidance and information to the states, grant recipients, and other interested parties. **Subscribe to the ETA Advisory System listserv and receive policy and information automatically.** Once subscribed, customers will be automatically notified when a new advisory (TEGL, TEN, Job Corps Bulletin, etc.) is issued. To subscribe to the ETA Advisory System listserv, log on www.doleta.gov/listserv/.

Publications/Reports/Resources

Toolkit Targets Workforce Strategies for Out-of-School Youth-The Road To Self Sufficiency: An Income Growth Strategy For Out of School Youth. Published by the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals (NYATEP), the tool kit offers tips, options and practical “how to’s” for planning and implementing quality youth-focused and business-focused services for out-of-school youth who are currently in, or about to enter the workforce. Download the toolkit on <http://www.nyatep.org/IncomeGrowthStrat.pdf>.

Inmate Education Lowers Risk of New Arrest. Two new reports highlight the role that postsecondary education, especially college, plays in reducing recidivism. The first report, *Three State Recidivism Study*, tracked 3,000 inmates in Maryland, Minnesota and Ohio. The U.S. Department of Education study found that inmates who participated in vocational training or classes at the high school or college level were far less likely to return to prison within three years of their release. To learn more, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/OCE/research.html>.

The second report, *Changing Minds: The Impact of College in a Maximum-Security Prison*, finds that prisoners who take college classes while in prison are four times more likely to stay out of prison upon their release. The Open Society Institute (OSI) Criminal Justice Initiative and the Leslie Glass Foundation funded the study, conducted by the Graduate Center of The City University of New York. The study focused on the experience of women who took college classes at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, New York’s only maximum-security prison for women. Researchers found other positive impacts of college on the women in prison and after release, on their children, and on the prison environment. To download the report, visit <http://www.changingminds.ws/>.

The Foundation Center Announces Foundation Grants Index on CD-ROM. Coming in December! The Foundation Grants Index on CD-ROM will help you find out who's giving and who's getting grants. Descriptions of approximately 100,000 grants from over 1,000 of the largest independent, corporate, and community foundations provide an excellent indication of their future funding priorities. To learn more, visit: http://fdncenter.org/marketplace/catalog/product_cd.jhtml?id=prod30015

Raising Minority Academic Achievement. Published by the American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF), this report cites evaluations of school and youth programs that show gains for minority youth across a broad range of academic achievement indicators. This publication is a resource for policy makers and practitioners interested in promoting the academic success of racial and ethnic minorities. To download the report, visit <http://www.aypf.org/rmaa/index.html>.

PEPNET Announces the Release of its 7th Annual PEPNET Application for recognition of youth employment and development programs. The application is designed to encourage youth initiatives to improve their programming and to promote better programs nationwide by identifying those exemplary initiatives that help youth succeed. **Deadline: April 18, 2002.** To download the application, visit www.nyec.org/pepnet.

Program Spotlight

Albany Youth Opportunity (YO!) Program Taps Free Breakfast and Lunch Program. The Albany, GA YO! Program works with faith-based organizations in their community to provide free breakfast and lunch to YO! members. Project director, Jo Granberry, reports that serving the meals has improved participation and performance in the YO! education and training programs. Food for the programs comes from the Food Distribution Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Eligible organizations may receive USDA-donated commodity meats, vegetables, fruits, grains, and dairy products, which they can use to cook the meals. For more information on eligibility and how to start a program in your community, contact your state USDA office. You can locate your state office by visiting <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/MENU/CONTACTS/contacts.htm>. For more information on how to set up a free breakfast and lunch program at your YO! site, call Jo Granberry at (229) 888-0999.

YO! Boston Hosts 2nd Annual Basketball Classic. YO! Boston will host the 2nd Annual Basketball Classic for the YO! sites on April 4-6, 2002. Due to logistics, this year's event can only accommodate 16 teams - on a first come, first serve basis. Highlights of the Classic include: recording sessions at the new YO Boston site, college tours, and shopping. **Deadline: January 11, 2002.** For more information call Jimmy Gifford (617) 635-0770 or Bryan Edwards (617) 541-2623.

REACH Milwaukee Web Site Helps Youth Navigate Career Opportunities. Milwaukee's Youth Opportunity Program has created a web site,

<http://www.reachmilwaukee.com>, that helps young people explore a range of career, education and occupational training opportunities. This user-friendly site provides information on the skills and educational levels required for more than 50 different careers in the health, business, social services, technology, science, and the arts. Users can also view current data on the average wages for specific jobs—both nationally and in the State of Wisconsin. For more information, contact Lois O’Keefe, project director, REACH Milwaukee, (414) 270-1701 or email: lokeefe@milwjobs.com.

Funding Opportunities

Appalachian Youth Entrepreneurship Education "Springboard" Award. The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education and the National Commission for Entrepreneurship, will make awards that recognize outstanding youth entrepreneurship education programs. Programs should target rural areas, serve as a "springboard" for Appalachian residents to launch their own businesses, create jobs in their communities, and further diversify and strengthen the Region's economy. The application deadline is January 23, 2002. Complete application materials can be obtained by contacting Deann Reed, ARC (202-884-7786; dreed@arc.gov), or on-line at <http://www.arc.gov/programs/reginit/spring.htm>.

J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation Awards for Excellence in Workforce Development. These grants recognize nonprofit job training and placement organizations across the United States that are using best practices to help low-income individuals find and retain quality jobs as a means out of poverty. In 2002, three awards of \$15,000 each will be made and may be used to cover any of the program or operational needs supporting the mission of the selected organizations. **Deadline: December 28, 2001.** For more information, contact Samia Malak, at the Enterprise Foundation, on 410-772-2436 or visit http://www.enterprisefoundation.org/join/NetworkMembership/chase_award.asp.

Gateway Foundation Accepting Applications for Education Technology Program. The Gateway Foundation is accepting applications for its Teach America program, which seeks to provide teachers with the skills and knowledge they need to enhance student learning through the effective use of technology. Through Teach America, the Gateway Foundation awards online training subscriptions to schools, school districts, and other educational institutions. To be eligible for a Teach America grant, applicants must be a nonprofit K-12 school, other nonprofit educational institution, or a teacher affiliated with such an institution and be able to demonstrate a need for technology training. For more information, visit <http://www.gateway.com/about/coinfo/teachamerica/index.shtml>

TechFoundation Announces New Tech Grant Program for Nonprofit Technology Assistance Providers The TechFoundation grant program will award 10-20 grants to projects that bring quality technology resources to select nonprofits in the U.S. and show that technology can help nonprofit organizations achieve their mission. The grant awards will range from \$5,000 to \$35,000 range, with an average of \$10,000 to \$18,000 per grant. **Deadline: January 7, 2002.** For more information, visit

<http://www.techfoundation.org/>. For additional RFPs in Science/Technology visit, http://fdncenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_science.jhtml

Peter F. Drucker Award for Nonprofit Innovation Invites Applications. The Drucker Award for Nonprofit Innovation recognizes a nonprofit organization that has made a difference in the lives of the people it serves. A prize of \$25,000 and a short video documentary of the winning project or program accompany the award. **Deadline: June 7, 2002.** To download an application, visit <http://www.drucker.org/award/index.html>

Ms. Foundation for Women Seeks Letters of Intent for Collaborative Fund for Youth-Led Social Change. The Ms. Foundation for Women's Collaborative Fund for Youth-Led Social Change invites letters of intent from community-based youth organizations that combine positive youth development and social change action with a gender-conscious approach. The Fund will make grants of \$35,000 per year for up to three years to approximately 12 girl-only and mixed-gender youth organizations that work in specific geographic communities across the US. **Deadline: November 30, 2001.** For an application, visit <http://www.ms.foundation.org/publications.html>.

Useful Websites

FirstGov for Kids, <http://www.kids.gov/>, the U.S. government interagency Kids' Portal, was developed and is maintained by the Federal Consumer Information Center. It provides links to Federal kids' sites along with some of the best kids' sites from other organizations all grouped by subject.

Oregon's online community website provides resources, ideas, and assistance for the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Visit <http://www.workforce.state.or.us/practices/BP.htm>

The Cross City Campaign is a national network of school reform leaders from nine cities: Baltimore, Chicago, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia and Seattle. The Campaign supports efforts to create high-quality schools that ensure educational success for all urban young people. Visit <http://www.crosscity.org/>

The National Center on Education, Disability, and Juvenile Justice (EDJJ) is a collaborative research, training, technical assistance and dissemination program designed to develop more effective responses to the needs of youth with disabilities in the juvenile justice system or those at-risk for involvement with the juvenile justice system. Visit <http://www.edjj.org/>.

Important Dates to Remember

December 2001

December 5-7: Second Annual Region V Youth Development Conference: Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel, Chicago, IL. For more information, see <http://www.doleta.gov/regions/reg05/Home/>.

December 11-13: Dallas-Denver Region IV, announces a youth summit, "Creating A Comprehensive Youth Investment Strategy: A Community Center Approach." For more information, see: <http://www.doleta.gov/regions/reg04/>

December 13-14: PEPNet Institute, Washington, DC. For more information, see www.nyec.org.

December 16 - 21 in San Diego, California: Youth Opportunity Grants Leadership Institute. Contact: Linda Reed, The National Center for Strategic Nonprofit Planning and Community Leadership (NPCL), or Yolanda Tully, Associate Director, (202) 296-2115.

January – May 2002

January 28 – 30: Youth Opportunity Grants Peer-to-Peer Training - The Nuts and Bolts of the College Preparation and Admissions Process in Baltimore, MD. For more details please contact Anne Stom at (202) 693-3377 or astom@doleta.gov.

March 1: Deadline for entries to the Youth Opportunity Grants film contest. For details, please contact Anne Stom at (202) 693-3377 or astom@doleta.gov.

March 20-23: National Service Learning Conference at the Seattle Convention Center. Applications are available on the NYLC web site at: <http://www.nylc.org/conference2002/>

April 18: Deadline for Seventh Annual PEPNet Award Recognition. Applications are available on the National Youth Employment Coalition web site: <http://www.nyec.org/pepnet/>.

May 1-3: Year 3 Youth Opportunity Grant Partners Meeting – Tampa, FL.